

Application No.: 10/722,619

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 15 with the following revised paragraph:

Machines are known in the label printing art that can remove adhesive-backed labels from label liner stock and can present them sequentially for use. See, for example, US Patent Nos. 4,025,067 issued May 24, 1977 to Schlacht; ~~4,627,006~~ 4,267,006 issued May 12, 1981 to Kam; 4,717,059 issued January 5, 1988 to Takahashi et al.; 4,769,103 issued September 6, 1988 to Koike et al.; and 5,642,666 issued July 1, 1997 to Petteruti et al. ~~al.~~ Typically, such machines present a peeled label as partially adhered to, and partially projecting unsupported from, a ridged feeder lip to facilitate access to the adhesive side of the label for ready transfer or direct application to a substrate. Peeled labels may exhibit substantial curl, and thus the spatial location of such a label may not be precisely controlled. Known lips of lined label printers, therefore, are inherently inadequate to meet the high-tolerance label positioning requirements of an automatic pick-and-place machine.